

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8, 16, 19 through 35, 37, and 40 through 57 are pending in this Application. Claims 2 through 7, 9 through 15, 17, 18, 36, 38, and 39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 8, 16, 19 through 35, and 37 have been amended, claims 40 through 57 have been added. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Adequate descriptive support for the present Amendment should be apparent throughout the originally filed disclosure as, for example, the Abstract, FIGs. 3, 6, and 8, ¶¶ [0014], [0017], [0047], [0107], [0111], and [0118] of the corresponding US Pub. No. 20090019532. Applicants submit that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue.

Telephone Interview of June 1, 2010.

Applicants express appreciation for the courtesy of the Examiner in granting and conducting a telephonic interview on June 1, 2010. No agreement was reached.

Claims 8, 18, 21 through 23, 26 through 27, 31 through 33, 36, and 39.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 8, 18, 21 through 23, 26 through 27, 31 through 33, 36, and 39 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By the present Amendment, claims 8, 18, 21 through 23, 26 through 27, 31 through 33, 36, and 39 have been incorporated into their respective independent claims 1, 19, 24, 28, 34, 35, and 37 to include essential limitations of the base claim and intervening claims while retaining the substance of the claims as allowed, and all other pending claims depend from the independent claims. Accordingly, all claims are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 through 7, 9 through 12, 14 through 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 28 through 30, 34, 35, 37 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness predicated upon *Mathis* (US 20030083046) in view of *Goto et al.* (US 20020160824, “*Goto*”).

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness predicated upon *Mathis* in view of *Goto* and *Bedingfield et al.* (US 7315614, “*Bedingfield*”).

Each of the above-identified rejections is traversed. Specifically, independent claims 19, 24, 28, 34, 35, and 37 have been amended to respectively incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 18, 21, 26, 31, 36, and 39 and the intervening claims, and independent claim 1 incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 18. Therefore, the above-identified rejections have been rendered moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the above-identified rejections including claims 1 through 7, 9 through 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 28 through 30, 34, 35, 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness predicated primarily upon *Mathis* in view of *Goto* is solicited.

New claims 40 through 57.

New claims 40 through 45 depend from independent claim 19; new claims 46 through 49 depend from independent claim 24; new claims 50 through 52 depend from independent claim 28; and new claims 53 through 57 depend from independent claim 34. Applicants submit that claims 40 through 57 are free of the applied prior art for reasons advocated *supra* with respect to independent claims 19, 24, 28, and 34. Accordingly, claims 40 through 57 are free of the applied prior art.

Based upon the foregoing, it is apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome, and that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is therefore solicited. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 822-7186 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 504213 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully Submitted,

DITTHAVONG MORI & STEINER, P.C.

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Date

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